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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,916	05/11/2001	David G. Quinn	5935/57	7605

7590 03/13/2003

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EXAMINER

DESANTO, MATTHEW F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3763

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/853,916

Applicant(s)

QUINN, DAVID G.

Examiner

Matthew F DeSanto

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 December 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings filed on 12/23/02 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the attached "Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

3. Referring to claim 1 the phrase "off-set to one side of said passage section," is unclear to the examiner and further clarification is needed. The examiner still has a difficult time picturing this structural limitation and cannot find the image in the new drawings.

4. Referring to claims 11, and 16, the phrase "inclined to said longitudinal axis in the same radial direction as said port so that the center of said nose section is offset to one side of said longitudinal axis" is unclear to the examiner and further clarification is needed. The examiner still has a difficult time picturing this structural limitation and cannot find the image in the new drawings.

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5. Referring to claims 2, 12 and 14, the phrase "said nose section has an outermost extremity which, in one location is substantially tangent to an imaginary cylinder containing the outermost periphery of said passage section" is unclear to the examiner and further clarification is needed. The examiner still has a difficult time picturing this structural limitation and cannot find the image in the new drawings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 2, 7, 10, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Conway et al. (USPN 5269770). Conway et al. discloses a bolus for a catheter, comprising: a general cylindrical body molded of resilient plastic and having a cylinder with a lumen, a bolus having a connector section, a passage section and a nose section, where the nose section having a bullet nose and joining the passage section immediately at the front end of the second port and; the thickness of the nose section which is smaller than the outside diameter of the tube. (Figures 5, 6, 23, 25, and 26).

As to claim 2 and 16, where the nose section has a center, which is radially offset from the longitudinal axis. (Figures 1-6).

As to claim 7, where the port has a trailing edge at the outer periphery of the said passage section; and the trailing edge is segmentally circular in cross section. (Figures 23, 25, and 26).

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As to claim 10, where the tube contains a single lumen and the passage section contains a single passage. (Figures 6, and 26).

7. Claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Cruz et al. Cruz et al. discloses a catheter with a bolus, wherein the bolus has a nose section, passage section, and a connector section. (Figures 4, and entire reference).

8. Claims 1, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mahurkar (USPN 5221256). Mahurkar discloses a bolus for a catheter, comprising: a general cylindrical body molded of resilient plastic and having a cylinder with a lumen, a bolus having a connector section, a passage section and a nose section, where the nose section having a bullet nose and joining the passage section immediately at the front end of the second port and; the thickness of the nose section which is smaller than the outside diameter of the tube and where the nose is offset. (Figure 3).

9. Claims 11, 13, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Andersen (USPN 6511474).

Andersen disclosed a catheter with a tube section, a bolus section including a connector section, nose section, and a passage section and wherein said nose section has an axis inclined from said longitudinal axis so that said nose section has an external surface portion which is substantially tangent to an imaginary cylinder containing the trailing edge of said port. (See Figures 2, 3 and 4 and entire reference)

Double Patenting

10. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the

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unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

11. Claims 1-5, 7-16 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-48 of copending Application No. 09/853,511. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both claims are drawn to a catheter tube having a bolus, wherein the bolus comprises a connector section, a nose section and a passageway section, wherein a port is located in the passageway section.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments filed 1/03/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

13. The examiner is unclear with the new structural limitations and does not fully understand what is being claimed due to the 112 issues; therefore, the examiner interprets the claim without those limitations.

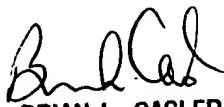
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew F DeSanto whose telephone number is 1-703-305-3292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-6:00.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1-703-308-0858.



Matthew DeSanto
Art unit 3763
March 10, 2003



BRIAN L. CASLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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